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(Washington, DC) - The White House today announced Missouri will receive more than \$185 million in weatherization and energy efficiency funding - including \$128 million for the Weatherization Assistance Program and \$57 million for the State Energy Program. This is part of a nationwide investment announced today of nearly \$8 billion under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act - an investment that is estimated to put 100,000 Americans to work.

The Recovery Act was passed by Congress earlier this year with the support of Congressman Russ Carnahan (MO-3). Carnahan led bipartisan efforts in the House to push for Recovery investments in weatherization and energy efficiency by leading a letter with his colleagues to gain a broad base of support of green high-performance building principles before presenting it to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

The funding will support weatherization of homes, including adding more insulation, sealing leaks and modernizing heating and air conditioning equipment, which will pay for itself many times over.

"Implementing green technology to new construction and retrofitting existing structures can have an immediate impact on decreasing our nation's carbon foot print, reducing energy costs, and creating millions of jobs," Carnahan said.

"The jobs created by this investment cannot be outsourced," Carnahan said. **"This is the kind of common-sense practice I will continue advocating for so that Americans are put back to work."**

The Weatherization Assistance Program will allow an average investment of up to \$6,500 per home in energy efficiency upgrades and will be available for families making up to 200% of the federal poverty level - or about \$44,000 a year for a family of four.

The DOE's Weatherization Assistance Program allows low-income families to reduce their energy bills by making their homes more energy efficient, reducing heating bills by an average of 32% and overall energy bills by hundreds of dollars per year.

In 2008, Carnahan co-founded the Congressional High Performance Buildings Caucus and has remained a leader in the area of promoting green building technologies in new and existing structures.

Those interested in these or similar programs should contact the appropriate federal and state agencies for detailed information. For more information and for current updates on the allocation and usage of funds, please visit <http://www.energy.gov/recovery/> .

State Energy Program

Administrator: Missouri Department of Natural Resources-Energy Center

Description: States use grants to address energy priorities and program funding to adopt emerging renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Website: <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/energy/>

Phone: (800)361-4827 / (573)751-3443

Helpful Link: http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/state_energy_program/projects_all_by_state.cfm/state=MO

Weatherization Assistance Program

Administrator: Missouri Department of Natural Resources-Energy Center

Description: Provides energy efficiency measures in the homes of qualifying homeowners free of charge.

Purpose: To assist low-income families reduce their energy bills by making their homes more energy efficient.

Website: <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/energy/>

Phone: (800)361-4827 / (573)751-3443